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LB 210

Initiative 300. The standard from there, the line that we have chosen to draw, is that service performed as a farm or ranch employee is not required to be covered under workers' comp unless the service is performed for an employer who, during a calendar year, employees six or more unrelated full-time employees, and that can be in one or more locations, each who work on each working day during any 13-week period, whether or not those weeks are consecutive or not. And the second component of the test, 40 percent or more of the employer's gross revenue is derived from the cultivation of land owned or leased by someone other than the employer for the production of ag crops, fruit, or horticultural products; or 40 percent of the gross revenue is derived from the keeping or feeding of animals not owned by the employer for the production of livestock or livestock products. That is the crux of the test that we have chosen to insert. Last year, when we introduced the bill, we started off with an exemption of up to 10 employees. We had no gross revenue test. We began to hear from people who have good sized family operations. And as a compromise, the committee went with 40 percent and six employees who are nonrelated. We have definitions of what "related" means into the...in the bill. And that would include a spouse, it would include children, and employees related to the employer within the third degree, by blood or marriage. And that would include, of course, parents, grandparents, great grandparents, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, brothers and sisters, and aunts and uncles, and nieces and nephews, and their spouses. The...if the employer is a partnership or an LLC or a corporation in which all the members or shareholders are related within the third degree, then the related employee means an employee related to such partner, member, or shareholder within the third degree by blood or marriage. That, I think, will conclude the opening on the bill, Mr. President. And I will yield the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. There are committee amendments, as stated. Senator Vrtiska, as chairman of the Business and Labor Committee, you're recognized to open on committee amendment AM0926 to LB 210. (Legislative Journal page 1022.)